

THE MAINE BLOWN UP.

A TERRIBLE DISASTER IN THE HARBOR OF HAVANA.

One of the Finest Vessels in the United States Navy Destroyed, and Many of Her Officers and Men Killed and Wounded.

The United States battleship Maine was blown up and totally destroyed in the harbor of Havana on Tuesday night, a week ago. The explosion occurred under the men's quarters in the forward part of the ship, and the death list is two hundred and sixty out of a crew of three hundred and thirty. The explosion took place, which accounts in some measure for the fearful loss of life. An hour after the explosion the bow of the once great battleship was under water and only a part of her stern could be seen. The explosion which shook the city of Havana from one end to the other, created the wildest excitement. All the electric lights were put out by the shock. Fire engines rushed madly from one direction to another, and no one knew for certain from which side the flames came. The cause of the disaster is unknown, but is now being investigated by a board of naval officers.

Consul General Lee, who was at the Hotel Inglaterra, received a telephone message from General Blanco telling him that the Maine had been blown up. General Lee hastened to the palace, where the cabinet quickly assembled and orders were given the officers and crew of the Spanish battleship Albatros XIII, to aid in the rescue of the Maine's crew. All the officers were saved except Jenkins and Merritt, who were missing.

One officer, whose name could not be learned said of the explosion: "I was in my bunk. When I got on deck fire had started forward. There was a good strong breeze. The call for all hands on deck was promptly obeyed and the men and officers went to their posts. All possible efforts were made to check the fire, but without avail. The flames spread fast and several explosions occurred. Magazines were blown up and explosives were thrown overboard. In half an hour it was apparent that nothing could be saved.

A Spanish naval officer said that Captain Sigbee was the last man to abandon the sinking ship and that he remained alongside the wreck as long as it was possible to do anything in the way of rescue.

The disaster is remarkable, in that only two officers lost their lives and these were of junior grades. They were Lieutenant Friend W. Jenkins and Assistant Engineer Oswin R. Merritt. The former was unmarried, but leaves a mother and sister. The latter, it is thought, also was unmarried, but the Spanish was unmarried concerning his family.

James Rowe, the ship's cook, was the least injured of any that were rescued. When asked how it happened, he said: "I don't know. I turned in my hammock at 8 o'clock, and heard three bells strike. I don't remember anything more till I felt myself thrown overboard and, falling heavily on the deck through a mass of smoke, I got on my feet and worked my way on deck. When I got there the superstructure deck was dipping under water, and I jumped overboard to keep from being drawn into the suction. I was picked up by a boat from the Spanish man-of-war. Four more were picked up by the same boat. They were Daniel Cronin, a landsman; Charles Berryman, boat swain; Albert John, seaman, and Bloomer, a landsman.

The following cable dispatch was received from Consul General Lee by the State Department at Washington Wednesday night: "Havana, Feb. 16.—Profound sorrow expressed by government and municipal authorities, consuls of foreign nations, organized bodies of all sorts and citizens generally. "Flags at half mast on governor general's palace, on shipping in harbor and in city. "Business suspended and theatres closed. "Dead number about 260. Officers' quarters being in the rear and sea lack accounts for greater proportion of all loss of sailors. "Funeral tomorrow at 3 p. m. Officers Merritt and Jenkins still missing. "Suppose you ask that naval court of inquiry be held to ascertain cause of explosion. "Hope our people will repress excitement and calmly await decision. (Signed) LEE."

THE LILY LATER SHIP. The Maine was looked upon as a warship that would give a good account of herself in any action. She was built at the New York navy yard and since entering into active service, on September 17, 1895, has been continuously at work. She was also a steel armored battleship and was equipped with two 10-inch barbets. She was 315 feet long by 33 feet beam and had a displacement of 6,822 tons. Her draft was 21 feet 6 inches, which allowed her to enter Havana harbor without trouble. She was equipped with twin screw vertical triple expansion engines, which drove her at the rate of 17.45 knots an hour, and she was thus able to make the distance between Key West and Havana in four hours. She had a maximum coal capacity of 554 tons. Her guns were protected by 12 inch, her barbets by 8 inch and her barbetts by 12 and 10 inch armor. She was armed with four 10 inch guns in turrets, six 6 inch breech loading, rifled guns, eight 18 pounders and four Gatlings. The Maine cost \$3,600,000 in round figures.

The following is a list of the officers of the Maine, with their addresses as far as obtainable at the navy department: Captain Charles D. Sigbee, Washington; Lieutenant Commander Richard Wainwright, Washington; Lieutenant G. F. Holman, California; Lieutenant John Hood, Florence, Ala.; Lieutenant Carl W. Jungen, New York city; Lieutenants (junior grade) G. P. Blow, Lasalle, Ill.; John J. Bianco, Greenwood, Md.; F. W. Jenkins, Allegheny City, Pa.; Naval cadets—W. T. Claverius, Jr., Louisiana; Aron Bronson, Nebraska; D. F. Boyd, Jr., Arizona; Surgeon L. G. Heineberger, Harrisburg, Va.; Paymaster C. M. Ray, Washington; Chief Engineer C. P. Howell, Go-

shen, N. Y.; Past Assistant Engineer, F. C. Bowers, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Assistant Engineers J. R. Morris, Oregon, Mo.; Darwin R. Merritt, Red Oak, Ia.; Engineer cadets, Pope Washington, North Carolina; Arthur Orenshaw, Alabama; Chaplain, J. P. Chadwick, New York, N. Y.; Chief Lieutenant Marines Albert W. Catlin, Minnesota.

BLAMES THE SPANIARDS.

Naval Officers Think They Blame the Maine.

The Washington correspondent of the News and Courier says: Spanish treachery appears to be the cause of the destruction of the battleship Maine in the harbor of Havana. That is the opinion of the best officers of the navy, including Chief Naval Constructor Hichborn, Assistant Secretary Roosevelt and a majority of the members of Congress, who are familiar with the circumstances surrounding the terrible event. Although the reports received from Capt. Sigbee and Consul General Lee are lacking in detail, and the responsibility for the disaster is not fixed, the prevailing sentiment here is that the explosion was caused by the use of torpedoes guided by an unfriendly hand. The greatest excitement prevailed throughout the city Wednesday and from early morning to the hour of closing the Executive mansion and the navy department have been crowded with earnest seekers for the latest information from Havana relative to the Maine disaster.

President McKinley is disposed to attribute the terrible catastrophe to the Spanish, but he does not have many supporters in that theory. The practical men of the navy are willing to stake their reputation upon the assertion that the circumstances do not admit of the accident theory.

Capt. Hichborn is regarded as one of the best and most fearless men in the navy, went all over the plans and drawings of the ill fated ship with your correspondent, and decided beyond reasonable doubt "the impossibility" of such an accident occurring. He exploded the theory that the Spanish had fired torpedoes at the Maine, but he is not alone in his opinion. The Spanish legation here, indicating that the accident was due to the explosion of the donkey engine, which runs the dynamo immediately over the forward magazine. According to the plan of the ship the donkey engine is employed in running the dynamo, which is run on one of the regular torpedoes, of which there are eight, which performs all of the auxiliary functions aboard the ship. Commodore Hichborn says the theory of spontaneous combustion will not hold water, for the character of the powder and ammunition, and the precautions taken to prevent them, all combine to render such an occurrence out of the question. He is convinced that when the divers come to take a look at the bottom of the ship it will be found that the indentations will turn inward, showing that the explosion came from the interior instead of the exterior of the vessel.

Nearly all of the experienced officers of the navy agree with Commodore Hichborn that the destruction of the Maine was accomplished by the use of torpedoes. It is known that the feeling of resentment against the United States by Spanish agents of Havana is intense, and there are a number of Spanish Guineas at large in that city who would glory in dynamiting an American war ship or in assassinating an American citizen. Under the circumstances it is almost impossible to locate the responsibility. It holds the Spanish Government responsible for the Spanish act committed in the harbor of Havana under the cover of darkness.

Assistant Secretary Roosevelt says he is convinced that the destruction of the Maine was not an accident. He says further that it is impossible for Capt. Sigbee to furnish the terrible happening and the cause of the same. Capt. Sigbee was in his cabin at the time of the explosion, and he barely escaped half dead. He received reports from his subordinate officers at eight bells, 8 o'clock, announcing that everything was "all right" in the various departments of the ship. According to the regulations the magazines were carefully inspected at 8 o'clock, and the engineer must have reported everything all right in the engineering department.

The most reasonable theory advanced in naval circles is to the effect that torpedoes were employed. The question arises whether they were sub marine, operated from shore, or whether they were used, as is frequently the practice, by the drifting process; that is, to attach two torpedoes to a cable a certain distance apart and let them drift with the tide toward the bow of the ship to be attacked. The flow of the current would cause them to come in contact with the sides of the ship, producing a concussion, followed by instant explosion.

What the Survivors Say. The steamship Olivette arrived at Key West Wednesday night with a large number of the wounded and many other survivors of the Maine disaster. The officers were all rescued, and followed in line with their chief, Sigbee, in saying that the cause of the explosion could only be ascertained by divers, but many of the sailors were outspoken in their declaration that the explosion was a deep laid plot of the Spaniards. They are greatly incensed against the Havana people, who have shown them small courtesies, who looked upon their presence as a national affront, and who have published anonymous circulars captioned "Down with Americans." They believe that the attack of such expressed and cowardly nature would not stop at an act of such terrible vengeance as the blowing up of the Maine. These sailors, acquainted with the drills, discipline and ensemble of a man of war, soon-poo the idea of an explosion as the last thing to be thought of.

Death to Americans. Frank Jungen, of Minneapolis, received a letter a few days ago from his brother, First Lieutenant C. W. Jungen, who was one of those saved from the Maine, in which the latter said there was a very bitter feeling in Havana against the Maine and her officers. Whenever they went on shore great excitement and evidences of antagonism were visible. He enclosed a translation of a handbill headed "Death to Americans," which had been circulated in Havana. In the opinion of the writer, there was an element in Havana that would quickly make trouble if opportunity offered.

THE SENATE ADJOURNS.

THE LAST DAYS OF THE SESSION OF THE BODY.

The Jim Crow Bill Passed by a Large Majority—Other Bills Passed—President McKinley Complimented by the Senators.

In the Senate Monday a house resolution came up providing for a committee of one senator and two representatives to investigate what disposition should be made of liquor samples received by the state board of control, and on motion of Mr. Mayfield was indefinitely postponed. Mr. Mayfield said it was too late for such investigation at this session.

When Mr. Moore's bill came up providing for the creation of Lee county, Mr. May moved to indefinitely postpone the bill. This motion was lost and the bill forming Lee county was passed.

The Pee Dee county matter then came up and after some discussion was referred back to the people for another vote.

Aye—Alexander, Archer, Brown, Connor, Dean, Gaines, Griffith, Henderson, Love, McAlhany, McCalla, McDaniel, Moses, Mower, O'Dell, Pettigrew, Ragsdale, Suddath and Wallace—15.

Mr. Mayfield seconded the resolutions and Mr. Sloan expressed his sentiments for the president and other officers. Sweet and pleasant recollections, he said, would always associate with the amiable, kind-hearted and learned president. His courtesy and that of the clerks and assistants would be long remembered. Lieut. Gov. McSweney had been well known in Columbia as a boy struggling for a foothold in life, and it was especially gratifying to him to know how ably he had filled the exalted station to which he was called.

The following resolutions, offered by Mr. Mayfield, were then read and adopted by a unanimous vote: Resolved, That the thanks of the senate be and are hereby tendered to the representatives of the press on the floor of the senate during the present session for their fair and impartial reports of the proceedings of this body.

Mr. Mayfield arose and expressed his appreciation not only of the capable work of the officers, clerks and assistants, but of the efficient corps of newspaper correspondents who had served so well in the tedious and laborious work of reporting the session.

The committee of the whole was then discharged and President Henderson presented to him the resolutions that had been adopted, as the unanimous sentiment of the body. "You possess," he said, "all the elements of a presiding officer. Courteous, careful, impartial, yet firm in your decisions, you have shown a deliberation with signal ability, for which we are under lasting obligations. Our thanks are due collectively and individually, to the officers of the senate for their assistance to us in discharging our duty."

Mr. Henderson said that in a long experience in legislative bodies, he had never known a senate more faithful to the public interest, and that they had set a good example to those who will succeed them in adjourning within 40 days, when they were permitted to go beyond the constitutional limit. They had worked faithfully and laboriously for the good of the State.

In conclusion Mr. Henderson moved that the resolution be published in the journal.

Mr. McSweney, in replying to the flattering testimonial of his efficiency and faithfulness in the chair said that he would attempt to speak, but would sincerely commend for himself and for the clerks and attaches he desired to say that his officials had all been faithful and efficient, and that he had never seen more devoted service. They had done not only their duty, but whatever would advance the business of the senate. He had done his duty to the public interest, and that they had set a good example to those who will succeed them in adjourning within 40 days, when they were permitted to go beyond the constitutional limit. They had worked faithfully and laboriously for the good of the State.

bled. The result was that the bill finally passed its third reading with no changes than those mentioned above. The vote was practically the same as on Mr. Sloan's motion to strike out the enacting words.

Wednesday the closing day of the senate was a continuous session breaker with frequent short recesses to await reports of conference committees.

The report of the printing committee, awarding the public printing to R. L. Bryan & Co., was received during the afternoon and the choice confirmed.

The closing scenes of the present session were enacted when Mr. Mower moved, at 2 o'clock, that the whole go into a committee of the whole, with Mr. Henderson in the chair.

Mr. Mower said that the session had been provided with courtesy and good feeling between the members seldom excelled. They had been actuated by a desire to do the best for the State and this had been largely promoted by the services of a good presiding officer in Lieut. Gov. McSweney, who had exhibited in the chair a wide knowledge of parliamentary law, and of the rules of the senate. At all times he had been courteous, impartial, and efficient, and he had not merely his formal duty, but his pleasure to testify alike to the faithful and able services of the president pro tem., and of the capable officers and attaches of the body. He then offered the following resolutions:

Be it resolved, That the thanks of the senate be and are hereby tendered to the president and other officers of the senate, and to the clerks and assistants of the senate for their faithful discharge of the duties of their respective positions.

That the same are due, and are hereby tendered to the president pro tem., of the senate.

That the senate commend the clerk, sergeant-at-arms, assistant clerk and the other officers and employees of the senate for their faithful discharge of the duties of their respective positions.

Mr. Mayfield seconded the resolutions and Mr. Sloan expressed his sentiments for the president and other officers. Sweet and pleasant recollections, he said, would always associate with the amiable, kind-hearted and learned president. His courtesy and that of the clerks and assistants would be long remembered. Lieut. Gov. McSweney had been well known in Columbia as a boy struggling for a foothold in life, and it was especially gratifying to him to know how ably he had filled the exalted station to which he was called.

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THE FRIENDS OF SILVER.

IN THE DEMOCRATIC, REPUBLICAN AND POPULIST PARTIES.

Asked to Unite in Future on the Financial Issue as of Paramount Importance—Appeals to Rich of the Parties to Concoct Deals.

The addresses on behalf of the Democratic, Populist and Silver Republican parties which have been in progress among the leaders of these parties at the capitol for the past few weeks, were issued Wednesday. They seek to unite the members of the three parties in future elections upon the financial issue as the question of paramount importance and are separate appeals to each of the parties to consolidate all along the lines for this purpose. The address to Democrats is signed by Senator James K. Jones of Arkansas, chairman of the Democratic national committee, and is endorsed by the Democratic congressional committee; that to the Populists by Senator Marion Butler, chairman of the Populist national committee, and the 25 other Populist members of the senate and house, and that of the Silver Republicans by Chairman Charles T. Towse of the Silver Republican party in the senate and the house, and also by ex-Senator DuBois.

The Democratic address is as follows: To the People: The surrender of the Republican party to the advocates of the gold standard, which is at last complete. The present administration, called to power under the solemn pledge of the Republican national convention at St. Louis to promote bimetallism, has formulated and sent to congress a bill, the leading purpose of which, the honorable secretary of the treasury avows, is to commit the country more thoroughly to the gold standard.

The country has already, for 24 years, been so thoroughly committed to this standard, partly by law and partly by the usurpations of the executive branch of the government, that the effects are seen as a fact on every hand: wages are reduced; work is harder to get; the weight of debt is doubled; the value of land and other property is reduced one-half or more, until the lives of the people are "made bitter with hard bondage." It is certainly not in the interest of humanity that the country should be so thoroughly committed to this standard, which is at last complete. The present administration, called to power under the solemn pledge of the Republican national convention at St. Louis to promote bimetallism, has formulated and sent to congress a bill, the leading purpose of which, the honorable secretary of the treasury avows, is to commit the country more thoroughly to the gold standard.

The increase of 145 per cent. in the value of money, caused by its increase in scarcity, from 1869 to 1894, as admitted by leading advocates of the gold standard. Prices rose, but the value of money in proportion to the volume of business was a wicked conspiracy deprived one of them of the money function. This was done with the deliberate purpose of raising the value of the other by rendering the supply of metallic money relatively scarce as compared with the demand. From the hour of the inauguration of this criminal conspiracy, the country has been in almost constant increasing measure. Just in proportion to the growth of arts and civilization and the expansion of commerce, business and industry, the inadequacy of the volume of gold is felt, its scarcity is emphasized, and the value increased.

The oppression of life and happiness which is inseparable from a long course of declining prices, has now reached developments, and it contains will ultimately still civilization. An enemy of American, President Andrew Johnson, university, some years ago said: "Our national debt on September 1, 1865, was \$2,750,000,000; it could have been paid off with 18,000,000 bales of cotton or 25,000,000 tons of iron. When it had been reduced to \$1,250,000,000, 30,000,000 bales of cotton or 39,000,000 tons of iron would have paid it off. In other words, while a nominal shrinkage of about 55 per cent. had taken place in the debt, it had, as measured in either of these two world staples, actually been enlarged by some 50 per cent."

Although more than half the principal of this enormous debt and every cent of accumulated interest had been paid by the labor of the United States, the holders of the bonds still hold a claim for more of the labor of the people than they held before these enormous payments had been even begun. This cruel confiscation of the lives and liberty of the laboring millions of this country is the most stupendous crime of the age. It is a great association of banks of issue as the all-dominating power in the nation, if opposed to every kind of trust and monopoly, the offering a d adjunct of the money power. * * *

Patriots and Citizens: We call upon you to unite in our great common cause of citizenship and patriotism. No man need surrender his party convictions. No existing organization need be abandoned. While striving to overthrow a common enemy no good purpose is served by emphasizing points on which we differ. But until this final assault of the enemy upon the gold standard is repelled, until the control of the money system of the country is rescued from the hands of the special interests, and assured to the whole people, the members of the great armies of political reform in every part of the United States should act in mutual justice and harmonious cooperation or the general welfare. To this object, thus urged upon our friends everywhere, we hereby pledge, jointly and severally, our earnest constant endeavor.

Signed by Charles A. Towse, chairman national committee of the Silver Republican party, eight Silver Republican senators and representatives and Fred T. DuBois.

The Boston dispatch says Rear Admiral Belknap, who resides in that city, says he is inclined to think that the Maine was blown up by a torpedo. He said it was a very significant thing that the Maine should have blown up in that particular harbor at this particular time, in the absence of information as to the cause of the explosion he thought it was the most significant indication in the whole matter.

The ship Lord of Nature. Massachusetts has again decided in its legislature against woman suffrage. Massachusetts has a large surplus feminine population, and the men are, apparently, hanging desperately together to resist as long and as hard as possible the tidal wave of the new feminism, with the unreasoning instinct of self-preservation.

ARAI ROAD WAR.

The Way They Do Things Over in North Carolina.

It seems that the Southern Railway has been attempting to run over the little Narrow Gauge at Hickory, N. C. We got the facts from the Charlotte Observer of Thursday. It seems that the Southern desired to lay side tracks into the city of Hickory, to connect with the Catawba Valley Lumber company and the Hickory Manufacturing company, and to reach these points, it was necessary to twice cross the Carolina and North-Western railroad. Without previous intimation, a construction train, loaded with hands and material, rolled into Hickory at 2 o'clock Monday morning over the Southern, and at daylight both crossings had been put in; but not quite completed. Upon being advised of the situation, the Carolina and North-Western authorities sent a train to the scene, placed two cars across the crossing and an engine and crew on the other. The Southern people continued work on either side of the two crossings; but were unable to continue operations on the crossing themselves on account of the car and engine obstructions. Things remained in the shape described until about 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, when the Southern men having retired, the Carolina and North-Western people appeared on the scene and commenced tearing up what had been done. The Southern gang was called out, and being the stronger, soon succeeded in overpowering the Carolina and North-Western people, and the latter quit work.

The Carolina and North-Western men retired; but on Wednesday morning reappeared on the scene with instructions not to allow the Southern folks to drive another spike. The Southern men, however, were not to be driven, and pretty soon there were several fights in progress. It became necessary for the mayor of Hickory to take a hand, and summoning 50 men to the assistance of the police, he took possession of both crossings in the name of the law. Both sides ask no one to make any effort to increase their respective forces until each had something like 150 men, and the situation began to look decidedly equally. But finally the municipal force succeeded in getting in between the two railroad mobs, and had no further trouble in keeping them apart. Next the Southern started out on a new track. Placing an engine across one crossing, it had the rails of the Carolina and North-Western torn up at the other. The city authorities protested against this arrangement; but the Southern claimed that its engine was on its own right of way, and would have no objection to the passenger train coming along, passengers, mail and baggage had to be transferred. At 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, Superintendent Dodson, of the Southern, arrived on the scene, and after investigating the situation ordered the Southern gang to remove obstructions and allow the Carolina and North-Western trains to pass. The sympathies of the Hickory people are strongly with the Carolina and North-Western road; but at last accounts the trouble was not settled.

The Agricultural Hall Matter. The state board of control, the attorney general, the sinking fund commissioners and W. H. Lyles, attorney for E. B. Wesley, the new candidate for governor, have been in conference recently and have practically reached an agreement. Mr. Lyles, on behalf of his client, first demanded \$150,000 for back rent and damages, but Attorney General Barber expressed the opinion that \$75,000 was about as much as Wesley could collect on those accounts. That sum, by a considerable argument, \$10,000 was suggested as a compromise figure and this has been practically agreed upon. For some reasons, the agricultural hall is peculiarly adapted to the state dispensary's requirements and it may remain there after it was learned that the state of E. B. Wesley had actually been settled for \$10,000, and papers signed ending that matter. Attorney Lyles said the state dispensary would remain in its present quarters, paying \$175 a month rent—Columbia Record.

No Discrimination. The Atlanta Constitution tells of an aged Georgia Negro, Nathan by name, who is employed by a gentlemanly Virginia gentleman, and who is a member of the colored church. Nathan has an eye to political favors is shown by the following conversation, which recently took place between him and his employer. "Haven't thought about it." "Well, if yer does run, an' gets elected, will you give me a job?" "Certainly, I would remember you, Nathan. What would you like?" "Well, suh, I'd like to black boots round de capitol."

"And what would you expect for that?" "Well, suh," he replied, "I should say \$4 a day would be reasonable. Dats what de yuther legislators get."

Thanks For the Foundation. An old itinerant colored preacher, while conducting services at a protracted meeting, was interrupted by a man, who rushed in and exclaimed, excitedly: "Parson, de lightning struck yur house, an' burned it ter de ground!" The congregation expected to see the parson collapse under this information, but he did not.

"Barnd de house down, did it?" "Yes, sah!" "Well, did it hurt de land what de house wuz on?" "No, sah!" "Thank de Lord for dat!" exclaimed the parson. "Thank de Lord for de land's life! En now well I sing on de 237, 'How Firm a Foundation.' Thank some brother for de tune."

Suspense Felt. The Boston dispatch says Rear Admiral Belknap, who resides in that city, says he is inclined to think that the Maine was blown up by a torpedo. He said it was a very significant thing that the Maine should have blown up in that particular harbor at this particular time, in the absence of information as to the cause of the explosion he thought it was the most significant indication in the whole matter.

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LEGISLATURE ADJOURNS.

WHAT WAS DONE DURING THE LAST DAYS.

The Public Printing Awarded the Bryan Printing Company—Complimentary Resolutions Adopted to Speaker Gary.

In the House on Monday Mr. Verrier introduced a concurrent resolution which raised a whirlwind for a little while. His resolution was to the effect that a committee of investigation be appointed by the general assembly to investigate certain rumors that the sample room at the state dispensary was continually being drawn upon for whiskey to pre-arrange the sale of the liquor. After some discussion the resolution was adopted.

On Tuesday Mr. Kennedy offered the following concurrent resolution, saying that it had been rumored largely that blind tigers here had been patronized by certain members and he desired to have them vindicated. Resolved, That a committee be appointed to investigate and find out what members, attaches and clerks of this general assembly have patronized blind tigers in the purchase of alcoholic liquors during their connection with the general assembly.

The voting on the resolution was very light. Nobody objected, and the speaker declared the resolution agreed to. The House on Wednesday rushed through the business before it and was adjourned for the summer at the appointed time. The following report of the joint committee on printing was presented:

The joint committee on printing of the senate and house have carefully considered the bids for the public printing; and we hereby award the contract to the Bryan Printing company, being the lowest responsible bidder. J. H. McLANE, Chairman senate. J. D. KINARD, Chairman house.

The following report was made by the special committee of investigation of the liquor samples matter: "The committee appointed pursuant to a concurrent resolution to investigate and report to this general assembly what disposition has been made of the liquor samples of the dispensary beg leave respectfully to report: That they have made such investigation as to the disposal of the liquor samples of the dispensary. The committee not having been appointed until the last hours of the session of the general assembly, have found it impossible under the pressure of legislative duties to examine fully such witnesses as would enable the committee to make an adequate investigation of the matter, which come within the scope of the resolution. But the committee are deeply impressed with the gravity of certain abuses in the management of the dispensary liquor samples which are not denied by the dispensary official. The committee view with great apprehension the practice which has grown up of distributing gratis among members of the general assembly samples of liquor left in the dispensary. Such a practice your committee feels assured will be fruit ul of the most pernicious results. The members of the board of control who have grown up in the committee declined to disclose the names of the members of the general assembly who have received these samples and while the committee think that the names of members of the general assembly who have received these donations of whiskey should be published, the resolution does not empower the committee to compel witnesses to attend and answer and the limited time at the disposal of the committee will not admit of further inquiry to that end. The committee respectfully recommend the enactment of a law making all liquor granted gratis to members of the state or to the board of control the property of the State to be disposed of in all respects as other liquors purchased for the dispensary. The report was received as information.

After the transaction of some other business, which wound up the work of the session, the House adjourned itself into the committee of the whole, and Mr. Jno. P. Thomas, Jr., was called to the chair.

Resolved, First, That upon the conclusion of the session of the house, its thanks are due and are hereby tendered to the Hon. Frank B. Gary for the able, impartial and energetic manner in which he has discharged the responsible duties of speaker since its organization.

Second, That while we have, and claim no power or right to dictate or control the action of the house, its siding officer, yet we would be derelict to our appreciation of the efficiency of one who has shown himself worthy in all particulars, did we not commend him to those who may succeed us.

Third, That these resolutions be entered into the Journal of the house, and a copy thereof properly engrossed, be presented to the honorable speaker. The resolutions were adopted.

The clerk of the senate arrived and stated that the upper house had completed its business for the session. Mr. B. C. was about to move to adjourn sine die, when Mr. W. S. Smith moved that a message be sent to the senate that the house was ready to adjourn sine die. This was done. Mr. Welling got in the motion for adjournment sine die, there being quite a scuffle over this honor, and at 5:55 a. m. Thursday morning the session of 1898 came to an end.

Eighty-Six Drowned. The Campaign General trans-Atlantic steamer Flacat, bound from Marseilles for Colon, was totally wrecked on Anaga Point, Conway Island, at 1 o'clock Thursday morning. Her captain, second officer, eleven of her crew and one passenger were saved. Thirty-eight of the crew and 40 passengers were lost. The Flacat was a vessel of 2,715 tons gross register.

Will Conquer Havana's Seat. Mayor Robert E. McKesson, of Columbus, Ohio, has mailed to the clerk of the senate at Washington a formal notice of his intention to contest the right of Senator Hanna to his seat. It was necessary that this be done now or the whole matter dropped, because the law requires that such notice must be filed within thirty days after the election.